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REMARKS

The election, without traverse, and the acknowledgment of the priority papers is noted by the Applicant.

The drawings are objected to by the Examiner for the reasons noted in the official action, e.g., the failure to reference element 10 in the specification. The raised drawing objection is believed to be overcome by the following clarification, namely, the intermediate masses 10 is shown in the drawings and referred to in paragraph 045 of the specification, i.e., ". . . . the transmission housing or the non-rotating transmission elements 4 are connected to intermediate masses 10 of the coupling device 6" If any further amendment to the specification or to the drawings of this application is believed necessary, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative of the Applicant to discuss the same.

Claim 27 is objected to for the reasons noted in the official action. The noted claim objection is overcoming by the above requested claim amendments.

The claims of this application is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for the reasons noted in the official action. The 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, rejection is acknowledged and respectfully traversed by the cancellation of claims 31 and 34-40, without prejudice, from this application.

Claims 21-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for the reasons noted in the official action. The subject matter of the rejected claims is accordingly revised by the above claim amendments. All of the presently pending claims are now believed to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention, thereby overcoming all of the raised § 112, second paragraph, rejections. The entered claim amendments are directed solely at overcoming the raised indefiniteness rejection(s) and are not directed at distinguishing the present invention from the art of record in this case.

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Next, claims 21, 22, 25, 27-30, 32 and 33 are rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 103, as being unpatentable in view of DE `116 and Harper `252. The Applicant acknowledges and respectfully traverses the raised obviousness rejection in view of the following remarks.

In view of the cancellation of rejected claims 21 and 22 from this case, and the amendment of the remaining claims to depend from either independent claims 23 or 26, the Applicant respectfully submits that further comments concerning the applied prior art of DE `116 and/or Harper `252 is not believed necessary. The Applicant also notes the remaining prior art cited in the official action. As none of that additional art is applied by the Examiner against the claims of this application, the Applicant is not providing any comments concerning that art as well.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 23, 24 and 26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim(s). In accordance with this indication, claims 23 and 26 are respectively revised to be independent claims and those two amended independent claims are now believed to be allowable. As claim 24 and 25, depend from amended independent claim 23 and as claims 27-30 depend, either directly or indirectly, from amended independent claim 26, those dependent claims are also believed to be allowable.

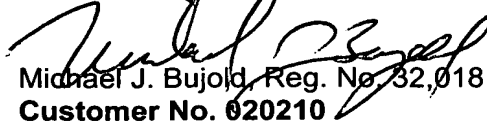
If any further amendment to this application is believed necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable form, the Examiner is courteously solicited to contact the undersigned representative of the Applicant to discuss the same.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now placed in a condition for allowance. Action to that end, in the form of an early Notice of Allowance, is courteously solicited by the Applicant at this time.

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In the event that there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge the same or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account (Account No. 04-0213).

Respectfully submitted,



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